

REMARKS

Claims 1-30, 32-36 and 38-47 are pending in the application.

In the aforementioned Office Action, Claims 46 and 47 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by *Shacher et al.*, (U.S. Patent No. 5,671,223). Claims 1, 3, 8-14, 16, 21, 23-25, 27-30, 32, 34-35, 39 and 42-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Shacher et al.*, in view of *Hwang* (U.S. Patent No. 6,788,652). Claims 2, 22 and 40-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Shacher et al.* in view of *Hwang* and further in view of *W. Simpson* (RFC 1662). Claim 4 is rejected as being unpatentable over *Shacher et al.* in view of *Hwang* and further in view of *Aggarwal et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,249,525). Claims 6, 7, 15, 17-20, 36 and 38 are allowed. Claims 5, 26 and 33 are objected to.

To expedite prosecution and without acquiescing to the Examiner's positions, claims 1-4, 8-14, 16, 21-25, 27-30, 32, 34, 35 and 39-47 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 5, 26 and 33 have been rewritten in independent form with each claim having all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In light of the above amendment and remarks, all claims remaining in the application, i.e., claims 5-7, 15, 17-20, 26, 33 and 36-38, are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and an early allowance are respectfully requested.

In the event of any fees that may be due or any overpayments that may be associated with this response, please charge or deposit the amount to Deposit Account No. 17-0026.

Respectfully submitted,

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